

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Army OB, Army Schools, Army Officers	DATE DISTR.	30 August 1955 25X1
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. The Bulgaria Army is composed of the following major units:

- a. 12 rifle divisions;
- b. 3 tank divisions;
- c. 2 cavalry brigades (probably grouped into one division)
- d. 1 mountain brigade ?

2. The following is the OB of the four Bulgarian armies, as well as of tank, cavalry, mountain, and other independent units:

- a. 1 Army

The headquarters of the 1 Army, which is headed by Maj. Gen. Diko D. Dikov, is located in Sofia. The chief of staff of this army is not known. The following table names the units, commanders, and location and gives the T/O strength of the divisions in percentages:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>T/O</u>
<u>"Stalin" 1 Guards Rifle Div</u>	Maj Gen Tsvyatko Anev	Sofia	90
1 Guards Rifle Regt	Col Yordanov (fnu)	Sofia	
6 Guards Rifle Regt	Col Dochev (fnu)	Sofia	
25 Rifle Regt	Col Mitrov (fnu)	Slivnitsa	
4 Divisional Arty Regt	Col A. Penchev	Bozhurishte (Sofia)	
? M Tk and SP Regt		Sofia	
<u>"Vidinska" 6 Rifle Div</u>	Maj Gen Vudenov (fnu)	Vratsa	80
"Vidinski" 3 Rifle Regt		Vidin	
"Lomski" 15 Rifle Regt	Lt Col Nisemchiev (fnu)	Belogradchik	
"Vrachanski" 35 Rifle Regt	Lt Col Chakurov (fnu)	Vratsa	
2 Divisional Arty Regt	Col Blazho R. Raychev	Vratsa	
<u>"Rilska" 7 Rifle Div</u>	Maj Gen Asenov (fnu)	Stanke Dimitrov	80
13 Rifle Regt		Kyustendil	
"Makedonski" 14 Rifle Regt	Col Delchev (fnu)	Blagoevgrad	
"Travinski" 22 Rifle Regt		Stanke Dimitrov	
7 Divisional Arty Regt		Stanke Dimitrov	
? M Tk and SP Regt		Stanke Dimitrov	

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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1 Army Units

Arty Regt	Col Ivan Arzhentinski	Samokov
Mountain Arty Regt	Lt Col Yovkov (fnu)	Razlog
AT Regt		Kyustendil
AAA Regt		Sofia
Engr Regt		Sofia
Sig Regt	Col Ivanov (fnu)	Sofia
Heavy Machine Gun Bn		Radomir
LP Bn		Sofia

b. 2 Army

The headquarters of the 2 Army, which is headed by Maj Gen Vrachev (fnu), is located in Sofia. The chief of staff of this army is not known. The following table names the units, commanders, and location and gives the T/O strength of the divisions in percentages:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>T/O</u>
<u>"Trakiyska" ("Dimitrovska") 2 Motorized Rifle Div</u>	Maj Gen Khristov (fnu)	Plovdiv	75
"Plovdivski" 9 Mtz Rifle Regt		Plovdiv	
"Srednogorski" 21 Rifle Regt	Col Buresh (fnu)	Smolyan	
27 Mtz Rifle Regt		Pazardzhik	
3 Divisional Arty Regt	Lt Col Stefanov (fnu)	Plovdiv	
<u>"Tundzhanska" 8 Rifle Div</u>	Maj Gen Chochoglu (fnu)	Stara Zagora-	75
"Balkanski" 12 Rifle Regt	Col R. Kostin	Khaskovo	
"Shipchanski" 23 Rifle Regt	Col S. Belkyarski	Stara Zagora	
"Sheynovski" 30 Rifle Regt	Lt Col Dimitrov (fnu)	Khaskovo	
8 Divisional Arty Regt	Col L. Trenev	Maritsa	
		Stara Zagora	
<u>"Byalomorska-Rodopska" 10 Rifle Div</u>	Col Malinov (fnu)	Kurdzhali	75
"Rodopski" 10 Rifle Regt	Col Stenalev (fnu)	Kurdzhali	
44 Rifle Regt		Krumovgrad	
47 Rifle Regt		Ardino	
10 Divisional Arty Regt		Memchilgrad	

2 Army Units

Arty Regt	Col Petur Karag'ozov	Kurdzhali
Mountain Arty Regt	Lt Col Mitov (fnu)	Asenovgrad
AT Regt		Stara Zagora
AAA Regt	Lt Col Zenov (fnu)	Kazanluk
Engr Regt	Col Lozanov (fnu)	Plovdiv
Sig Regt		Plovdiv
Heavy Machine Gun Bn		Peshtera
LP Bn		Plovdiv

c. 3 Army

The headquarters of the 3 Army, which is headed by Lt Gen Dobri M. Dzhurov and whose chief of staff is Col Georgiev (fnu), is located in Sliven. The following table names the units, commanders, and location and gives the T/O strength of the divisions in percentages:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>T/O</u>
<u>"Elhano-Dravska" 3 Rifle Div</u>	Lt Gen Bakladzhiev (fnu)	Sliven-Yambol	75
"Slivenski" 11 Rifle Regt		Sliven-Elkhovo	
"Yambolski" 29 Rifle Regt		Yambol	
40 Rifle Regt		Yambol	
6 Divisional Arty Regt	Col Naydenov (fnu)	Sliven	
<u>"Preslavka" 4 Rifle Div</u>	Col Ovcharov (fnu)	Kolarovgrad	75
"Preslavski" 7 Rifle Regt		Kolarovgrad	
"Primorski" 8 Rifle Regt (Mtz)	Col Borachev (fnu)	Stalin	
"Shumenski" 19 Rifle Regt		Razgrad	
5 Divisional Arty Regt	Col Tozev? (fnu)	Kolarovgrad	

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<u>11 Rifle Div</u>	Maj Gen Khristo Momchev	Burgas	75
"Chernomorski" 24 Rifle Regt	Lt Col Nidev (fnu)	Burgas	
28 Rifle Regt		Grudovo	
32 Rifle Regt		Polyanovgrad	
11 Divisional Arty Regt		Burgas	

<u>3 Army Units</u>			
Arty Regt	Col Georgiev (fnu)	Kolarovgrad	
Mountain Arty Regt		Turgovishte	
AT Regt		Razgrad	
AAA Regt		Yambol	
Engr Regt		Sliven	
Sig Regt	Col Getov (fnu)	Sliven	
Heavy Machine Gun Bn		Elkhovo	
MP Bn		Kolarovgrad	

d. 4 Army

The headquarters of the 4 Army, which is headed by Maj Gen Shteryu Atanasov, is located in Pleven. The chief of staff of this army is not known. The following table names the units, commanders and location and gives the T/O strength of the divisions in percentages:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>T/O</u>
<u>"Dunavaska" 5 Rifle Div</u>	Col Nikola S. Botev	Ruse-Chirpan	80
18 Rifle Regt	Lt Col Simov (fnu)		
"Dunavski" 5 Rifle Regt			
"Svishtovski" 33 Rifle Regt			
1 Divisional Arty Regt	Col Bozmarov		
<u>"Plevenska" 9 Rifle Div</u>	Maj Gen Vasil Pop Stoyanov	Pleven	80
"Plevenski-Skobelevski" 4 Rifle Regt		Pleven	
"Troyanski" 34 Rifle Regt		Lovetch	
36 Rifle Regt		Oryakhovo	
9 Divisional Arty Regt		Sevlievo	
<u>12 Rifle Div</u>		Tolbukhin	50
"Silistranski" 31 Rifle Regt		Silistra	
46 Rifle Regt		Tolbukhin	
32 Rifle Regt		Novi Pazar ?	
12 Divisional Arty Regt		Silistra ?	

<u>4 Army Units</u>		
Arty Regt		Pleven
Mountain Arty Regt		Turnovo
AT Regt		Belogradchik
AAA Regt		Dolna Oryakhovitsa
Engr Regt		Nikopol
Sig Regt		Belogradchik
Heavy Machine Gun Bn		Belogradchik
MP Bn		Pleven

e. Tank Units

The following table names tank units, commanders, and location and gives the T/O strength of two divisions in percentages:

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Commander</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>T/O</u>
<u>1 or 2 Tank Div</u>	Col Zhelev(fnu)	Kazanluk	50
? Tank Regt (elements in 6 Tank Brig)		Kazanluk	
? Tank Regt (elements in 6 Tank Brig)		Kazanluk ?	
? Itz Rifle Regt		Kazanluk ?	
? Hv Tank and SP Regt		Kazanluk-Sliven	

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3 ? Tank Div
 ? Tank Regt (elements in 4 Tk Brig)
 ? Tank Regt (elements in 4 Tk Brig)

Plovdiv
 Plovdiv
 Asenovgrad

9 Tank Div¹
 Gen S. Stoyanov
 Col Popov

Sofia- 20
 Gorna Banya
 Sukhodol-Gorna Banya
 Gorna Banya-Sukhodol
 Knyazhevo (Sofia)
 Sofia
 Sukhodol or Boyana
 Sofia
 Gorna Banya or Boyana
 Sukhodol
 Gorna Banya

5 Tank Regt (elements in 13? Tk Brig)
 7 Tank Regt (elements in 13? Tk Brig)
 17 Itz Rifle Regt
 ? Hv Tank and SP Regt
 ? AAA Regt
 ? AT Regt
 Explorers Group
 Engr Bn
 Sig Bn

f. Cavalry Units

The following table names cavalry units and their locations:

Unit	Location
3 Cavalry Brig	Kolarovgrad ?
8 Cavalry Regt	Silistra
10 Cavalry Regt	Kolarovgrad-Tolbukhin
7 Horse Cavalry Regt	Kolarovgrad-Tolbukhin
Cavalry Brigade	Plovdiv ?
4 Cavalry Regt	Yambol
5 Cavalry Regt	Plovdiv

g. Mountain Units

The following table names mountain units and their locations:

Unit	Location
Mountain Brigade ?	Petrich
Mountain Rifle Regt	Sandanski
Mountain Rifle Regt	Blagoevgrad

h. Independent Units

The following table names independent units and their locations:

Unit	Location
1 Coast Arty Regt	Stalin
2 Coast Arty Regt	Burgas
? Railroad Regt	Sofia
? Truck Regt	Sofia

3. The following are military institutes for all the Bulgarian Armed Forces:

- "C.E. Rakovski" Military School in Sofia
- "Vasil Levski" Military Academy in Sofia
- "V.I. Stalin" Political Military School in Sofia

4. The following are Army institutes:

- "Suvorov" Military College in Sofia
- Rifle Training School in Turnovo
- Artillery and Engineers Training School in Lozenets, Sofia Okoliya
- Signal School in Sofia
- Medical Officers' School in Sofia
- "Khristo Botev" Reserve Student Officers' School in Turnovo
- Trudovak Officers' School in Gorna Banya, Sofia Okoliya
- Tank Corps School in Botevgrad
- Engineer and Radio Operators School in Kolarovgrad

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5. The Ministry of People's Defense is composed as follows:

Col Gen² Petur Pavlov Panchevski, Minister
 Lt Gen² Ivan Kinov, First Deputy Minister
 Maj Gen Atanas Atanasov, Second Deputy Minister
 Maj Gen Avgust Milchev, Third Deputy Minister
 Maj Gen Dimo Dezhurov, General Director of Officer Personnel and
 General Director of Class Call-ups, NCOs and EM
 Col Pavelin, Military Quartermaster
 Maj Gen Dimitur Tomov, Ordnance
 Maj Gen Grigor Yonesku ?, Engineers
 Maj Gen Stoyanov (fnu), Surgeon General
 Maj Gen Lyuben Dinov, Political Training

6. The chiefs of the following services in the Ministry are not known:

- a. Signal
- b. Veterinary
- c. Military Justice
- d. Advocate General

7. The General Staff is composed as follows:

Lt Gen Buchvarov, Chief of Staff
 Maj Gen Avgust Milchev, First Deputy Chief of Staff for Services
 Maj Gen Ivanov (fnu), Second Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations
 Rear Admiral Branimir Ormanov, Chief of the Navy
 Maj Gen K. Kirilov, Chief of Air Force
 Maj Gen Dimitur Bratanov, Rifle Inspectorate
 Lt Gen Todor S. Toshev, Cavalry Inspectorate⁴
 Maj Gen Popov ?, Artillery Inspectorate
 Maj Gen Staribradov, Engineers Inspectorate
 Gen Georgiev, Intelligence Office
 Maj Gen Khanamov (fnu), Political Directorate

8. The chiefs of the following inspectorates are not known:

- a. Tank Corps Inspectorate
- b. Signal Corps Inspectorate

9. During 1954, the Bulgarian General Staff continued to put into effect its program, the objectives of which may be listed as follows:

- a. Complete Sovietization of all the large units, both with regard to organics and materiel, as well as tactical doctrine;
- b. Preparation and perfecting general mobilization plan;
- c. Perfecting the state-of-war preparedness so that Bulgaria will be able to face a first attack with her own armed forces, if war should come.

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Comments.

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1. How the 9 Tank Brigade
2. How Army General
3. How Colonel General
4. Reportedly relieved and assigned to a Cooperative Labor Farm in Dobrudzha

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CORRECTION

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Paragraph 2b [] dated 30 August 1955, which reads:

"2 Army

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The Headquarters of the 2 Army, which is headed by Maj Gen Vrachev (fnu) is located in Sofia.."

should be changed to read:

"2 Army

The Headquarters of the 2 Army, which is headed by Maj Gen Vrachev (fnu) is located in Plovdiv.."

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC					
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